

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...between the grandparent and the child. It would not be in the best interest of the child to grant this kind of visitation, and it would definitely interfere with the parent-child relationship. But the old geezer and "geezeress," in their hard-heartedness, can sit over there with a satisfied, smug look on their face because, by god, they've used the courts and they have fixed you. Very bad policy, unworkable, and I hope you will vote to indefinitely postpone this bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, then Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I rise to support Senator Chambers in this motion to indefinitely postpone. I would like to talk briefly about the effects on children of divorce and of the adversarial relationship that sometimes develops, unfortunately, because of that divorce and how, I'm sure, that does effect grandparents in a very adverse fashion. Sometimes I think we fail to recognize the, as Senator Chambers put it, the fact that children have feelings too, and that they get drug into the situation of blame on this side, or blame on that side, and putting them in a position where, for visitation purposes, they are exposed to an awful lot more of that blame. That adversary situation is not going to be beneficial to the children. It doesn't help them get over the trauma of the divorce. I know that situation. I think that we'd be kidding ourselves if we ignored it. Now it seems to me that there are two reasons that this bill is being promoted, number one, the idea that we somehow have to do something to enhance the total family picture. Well, if it is a happy family picture, we don't need to do anything statutorily to enhance it. If it is not a happy family picture or situation, then putting them in a situation where that adversarial position is not going to enhance it, I can assure you. I...without going into the details, I understand that on a firsthand basis. Secondly, there has been the arguments made that, well, a lot of other states have done it. That, in my estimation, is one of the poorest damned arguments you could come up with. If that is the case, we definitely ought not have a Unicameral because nobody else has done it, so it must be a terrible idea. We'd ought not have total public power in this state because nobody else did it, so it must be a terrible idea. If we want to only do those things that other states have done, then we had ought to just do